

ARIZONA NEWS RELEASE

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Press Release Announcement – (May 20, 2005)
- For Immediate Release -

ARIZONA CATTLE ON FEED INVENTORY UP 11 PERCENT FROM A YEAR AGO

Phoenix – On May 1, 2005, Arizona had 328,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, up 11 percent from a year ago. Placements in feedlots during April totaled 31,000 head, the same as April a year ago. Marketings of fed cattle during April were estimated at 24,000 head, 3,000 less than the previous April. California had 500,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market on May 1, the same as the previous year. Placements in feedlots totaled 64,000 head, down 11,000 head from a year ago. Marketings of fed cattle were 59,000 head, a decrease of 8,000 head from last April.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.6 million head on May 1, 2005. The inventory was 3 percent above May 1, 2004 and 1 percent above May 1, 2003. Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.66 million, 4 percent above 2004 but 11 percent below 2003. Net placements were 1.57 million. During April, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 340,000, 600-699 pounds were 225,000, 700-799 pounds were 500,000, and 800 pounds and greater were

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527,000. Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 1.80 million, 5 percent below 2004 but 9 percent above 2003. This is the lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of April since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 90,000 during April, 7 percent below 2004 but 43 percent above 2003.